

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. In this case they are airing outright propaganda which is their right, but it should be labelled as such, just as cigarettes are labelled as harmful substances.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

This is a much bigger issue than Janet Jackson's breast. That was a flash in the pan. This is something that will affect all our lives for the next four years.

Please ensure that you do something about this.

Thank you.